

Applicants: Paul Simmons et al.
Serial No.: 10/813,747
Filed : March 29, 2004
Page 5

REMARKS

Claims 1-78 are pending in the subject application. Applicants have hereinabove cancelled claims 1-78 without disclaimer or prejudice to applicants' right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in the future. In addition, applicants have added new claims 79-90. Support for new claim 79 can be found in the specification as originally filed at, *inter alia*, page 7, lines 4-10; page 9, lines 9-11; and page 18, lines 1-5. Support for new claims 80-81 can be found in the specification as originally filed at, *inter alia*, page 1, lines 7-11; page 13, lines 14-21; and page 43, line 28 to page 44, line 10. Support for new claim 82 can be found in the specification as originally filed at, *inter alia*, page 12, lines 25 to 31; and at page 14, lines 27 to 32. Support for new claim 83 can be found in the specification as originally filed at, *inter alia*, page 6, lines 11-13. Support for new claims 84, 85 and 90 can be found in the specification as originally filed at, *inter alia*, page 7, lines 4-23. Support for new claim 86 can be found in the specification as originally filed at, *inter alia*, page 10, lines 15-20. Support for new claims 87, 88 and 89 can be found in the specification as originally filed at, *inter alia*, page 10, lines 22-28. Applicants maintain that new claims 79-90 raise no issue of new matter. In addition, applicants have hereinabove amended the priority paragraph of the specification on page 1 to update the information contained therein. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment.

Restriction Requirement Under 35 U.S.C. §121

The December 15, 2006 Office Action imposes a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. §121 of the claims among twelve (12)

Applicants: Paul Simmons et al.
Serial No.: 10/813,747
Filed : March 29, 2004
Page 6

groups of claims.

In response, applicants have canceled previous claims 1-78 and added new claims 79 to 90. Applicants maintain that new claims 79-90 are related to Examiner's claim group XI, i.e. drawn to a method of enriching for mesenchymal precursor cells based on the presence of the marker Stro-1^{bright} group. More importantly, claims 79-90 involve a single independent claim and are all clearly directed to a single inventive concept.

Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner examine new claims 79-90 on the merits.